

Attorney Docket No.: 9400-43
Application Serial No.: 10/677,417
Filed: October 2, 2003
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REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated June 7, 2005 ("the Action"), Applicants respectfully request reconsideration based on the above claim amendments and the following remarks. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims as presented are in condition for allowance, or, alternatively, in better form for appeal.

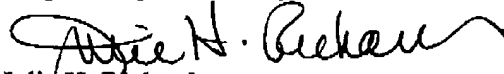
Claims 1-37 were pending in the application. Claims 1-17 and 19-34 are allowed and Claim 18 is stated to be allowable if amended to remove the "and/or" recitation. Applicants have amended Claim 18 to obviate the objection. As such, all pending claims are in condition for allowance.

The Action rejects Claims 35-37. Although Applicants disagree with this rejection, Claims 35-37 have been canceled above without prejudice thereto in order to advance prosecution. Applicants reserve the right to argue the patentability of these claims in a future continuation application.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance and the same is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at 919-854-1400 for resolution of any outstanding issues.

Applicants concur with the Examiners reasons for allowability as stated at paragraph 6 of the Action. Applicants have not reviewed the document cited in paragraph 7 of the Action and respectfully submit that additional or different operational differences and/or distinctions may be found in the claimed subject matter of the instant application.

Respectfully submitted,



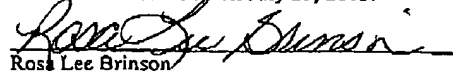
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CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office via the central facsimile number 571-283-8300 on July 29, 2005.


Rosa Lee Brinson